"let your light shine"

Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust

Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 20th November 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary
Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had a great week thinking about anti-bullying, what it means and what our responsibilities are. We discovered that we are a really lovely community where bullying is rare and when it does happen, we feel safe to speak up about it. We understand that bullying is an intentional act, something that we mean to do. Because our children are young and still finding our way, there are occasions where there are acts of meanness but this is not bullying and we are able to resolve these quickly and respectfully. I would like to thank you, our families, as you help to create the culture where bullying is not welcome. I have never felt the need to highlight the message 'we do not tolerate abuse towards staff', as our community is always respectful and kind. Where there are concerns, I appreciate you coming to us politely and with an open mind.We do operate an open door policy but please bear in mind the working hours of our staff when sending messages, particularly via Class DoJo. If you have a message that is a concern or regarding something that has happened, please consider the timing of it. Thank you to all of you who already do. Otherwise we can have some sleepless nights. A final note of out of school celebrations - a HUGE WELL DONE to Harry in Year 6, who achieved his 4000m in swimming. We are in awe!

We thank you for your continued support. Emma Spaul, Head of School

Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Monday 23rd November - Flu Vaccination follow up visit for those who want the vaccination but were absent last time.

Wednesday 25th November - Y4/5/6 Swimming at Dereham in the morning.

Thursday 26th November - Musical Day at Castle Acre - kindly funded by The Friends

.

On the following week:
Friday 4th December - 1.30pm Parents/Carers invited to Christmas Crafts Cafes in school - all classes. Followed by 2.45pm (approx.) - Carols Round the Tree at the front of the school.

Attendance Awards w/e 20/11/26

Class	%
Rowan	92.69
Whitebeam	93.2
Oak	93.13

Attendance was low in all 3 classes this week, so no Attendance Award but hopefully it will improve next week.



Ted the Bear will stay in Whitebeam Class this week!

Reminders and Information.....





Help with online safety::

The CEOP website, run by the National Crime Prevention agency, gives helpful advice about when and how to report your concern.
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Get-help/Reporting-an-incident/



See these links for further information, games and tips:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/

The whole Federation is going to Panto!..... "Oh, yes they are!" Please pay via Arbor in installments if you prefer.

Tuesday 8th December 2026
Morning show



Military Families.....

Military Club with Mrs Jary is every Thursday lunchtime at Narborough . Eat your lunch, bring a friend and chat! Each week we meet online with our other service children at Castle Acre and Sporle.
We're proud of our Service personnel and proud to support our service families. We have strong links with the RAF base and look forward to our involvement in events.

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AWARDS

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Indie	being a reading superstar! Reading with great fluency and confidence.
Writer of the week	Mia	working really hard on your handwriting.
Mathematician of the week	Hollie	super progress and for always completing maths challenges.
Shining Light	Jaxon Keegan	trying your best and not giving up. showing wonderful enthusiasm and always wanting to join in.
Reads at Home	Albie Hollie	50 50

Our week in Class

What a super week!

We have been busy learning lines and singing lots of songs ready for Rowan/Maple class performance.

The Reception children have been writing about the story of Little Red Riding Hood.

Year 1 have been writing rhyming poems about remembrance.

Reception children have been learning number bonds to five and year 1 have been learning 2D and 3D shapes.

Have a fabulous weekend.







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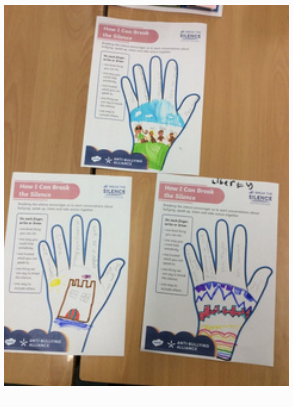
Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Ivy	for great work this week during reading and working well with a partner to research and find information about Amelia Earhart
Writer of the week	Olivia-Rose	for working well on her handwriting and for beginning to use the whoosh in and out when forming her letters
Mathematician of the week	Tobias	for fantastic work when mentally answering questions on number bonds to 20
Shining Light	Arly Amelia	for demonstrating our value of responsibility by always engaging enthusiastically with her learning for demonstrating our value of respect by always being polite and helpful
Tackling Tables		none this week
Reads at home		none this week

Our week in Class

Well done Whitebeam for a super week of learning.

As part of Anti-bullying week, we have thought about what we can do to help if we see others being unkind and, as the evenings are getting darker, we have also explored what we can do to keep safe through road safety awareness. In Geography we have compared different types of settlements including villages, towns and cities and learnt about the difference between rural and urban areas. In science, we had fun setting up an investigation using a ramp and a toy car to see the effect of different surfaces and friction and in DT we have drawn a design of what we hope our 3D castles will look like!







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Oak Class

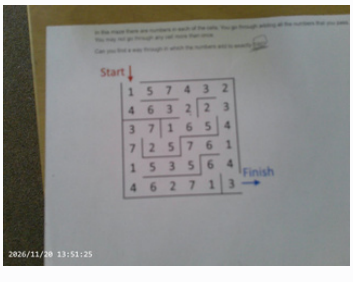
Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Etta	giving brilliant, thoughtful answers when working through Y6 reading papers.
Writer of the week	Isla B	her quickly improving writing, in both her writing's content and presentation.
Mathematician of the week	Logan	his incredible focus and resilience in Maths leading to great improvement in his arithmetic.
Shining Light	Toby Hazel Harry	his ambition for his work and determination to do his best. her wonderful confidence while swimming this week. his quiet, confident maturity and being a great role model for the whole school.
Reads at home	Oliver P	75 reads - Silver star
Tackling Tables	Oscar	Red - decimals mini test

Our week in Class

This week, Oak Class have been writing narratives using dialogue to show character and action. We have rewritten part of our class text Cosmic.
In Maths, Oak Class have been solving multiplication and division problems. We have also exnjoyed a range of mathematical puzzles today.

In our afternoons, we have experimented with shadows and light in Science, discussed theories about different Stone Age artefacts in History, spoke about the concept of 'truth' in RE, and shared how we would 'Speak Out' for anti-bullying week in PSHE.









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Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 28th November 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Safeguarding.....

We thought you may be interested in this article from a safeguarding newsletter:

Black Friday: the biggest scam fest of the year

This year 'Black Friday' falls on 27th November, with 'Cyber Monday' on 30th November 2026. For fraudsters it is the busiest stretch of the year, and schools are exposed from several directions at once. The most recent NCSC and Action Fraud figures show over £11.5 million lost to online shopping scams between November 2023 and January 2024, an average of £695 per victim. Social media featured in 43% of reports, which is where many pupils spend their time. Expect fake giveaways, in-game currency scams and "too good to be true" resale offers.

Not every scam involves a bargain. Report Fraud has just warned that criminals posing as Amazon stole £86,837 in nine days in October, across 110 reports. They phone out of the blue about "suspicious activity" on an account, then talk victims into sharing their screen, installing remote access software or handing over ID. People aged 50 to 79 made up 60% of reports, so make sure pupils keep their grandparents informed.

Suspicious emails can be sent to: ***report@phishing.gov.uk*** with further information here.

Last year's online survey for families:

Just a recap from our survey last year: what families wanted to learn more about was ways we can lobby the Government. For the latter, the Smartphone free childhood group seems a good place to get information regarding this. Finally, just to say that whilst Computing is of course part of our curriculum, we are very aware of ensuring that our children learn the skills they need for this online age, but do not spend a great proportion of their day on screens, even at wrap-around clubs.

Actions we took as a result of our survey:

- offered support through the newsletter around privacy controls
- used the information around what Parents/Carers would like support with to form the content of our Parent workshop which we ran online.

We'll be carrying out the survey again in the Spring, so if you have ideas about what you'd like a Parents/Carers' workshop on, do send them to me.

Healthy mind, healthy body

This week's tips come from Ms Rose at Narborough:
"I look after my diet and lifestyle and think about what works well for me"

Message from the Executive Headteacher....

This week I have been monitoring across the Federation, looking at the number of children who are reading at home, completing their Spelling Frame and completing their number bonds practise or Tackling Tables. There aren't enough children doing this regularly, so we will consider this as a leadership team, but I'd be grateful for any feedback from families too. Please do make every effort to do this, particularly hearing the children read, as this does make such a difference.

The other thing that supports the children is strong attendance - daily attendance at school is absolutely essential for good learning progress.

Across our three schools, it is interesting to note the following: (Children with additional needs not counted in this statistic) There are only 43 children below 96% attendance and 38 of those children are below where they need to be in their learning.

Please: if you want them to succeed, get them in and hear them read!

Friends of Castle Acre School (FOCAS).....

We're registered on #easyfundraising which means you can raise free donations for us when you shop online! Over 8,000 retailers will make a donation to Friends Of Castle Acre School, Kings Lynn on your behalf when you shop with them. All the big names like Sainsbury's, Argos, Just Eat and more are ready to donate at no extra cost to you.

https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/friends-of-castle-acre-schoollibrarybusproject/sjvzqs/c2s/ahT9IaEN/CE953/facebook/

Prayer for the Week....

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the food we eat, for the lunch ladies who give us the correct meals and for the people who keep us safe. Thank you for the people who keep us happy and go out of their way to give us hot meals.

Amen

By: Isla

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

Head of School
Castle Acre C of E Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher
Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies
Castle Acre, Narborough and Sporle C of E Primary Academy

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Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

